**Patent claims**

1. A preparation for applying to the skin (stratum corneum), characterized in that it comprises a silicone composition which is highly viscous on application and which, after application, cures, by means of crosslinking, to form a soft and skin-friendly elastomer which adheres to the skin.

2. A preparation as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that, on application, it has a viscosity of 5-300 Pa*s, preferably 10-120 Pa*s, more preferably 20-80 Pa*s, and, after curing, has a penetration (softness) of 2-15 mm, preferably 3-10 mm.

3. A preparation as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that, after curing on the skin, it has an adherence to the skin of 0.3-3.0 N/25 mm.

4. A preparation as claimed in claims 1, 2 or 3, characterized in that the curing time after application is 0.5 min-24 hrs, preferably 1 min-1 hr, more preferably 1-5 min.

5. A preparation as claimed in claims 1, 2, 3 or 4, characterized in that the preparation is hydrophobic.

6. A preparation as claimed in one of claims 1-5, characterized in that the silicone composition consists of an addition-curing RTV silicone system.

7. A preparation as claimed in claim 6, characterized in that the crosslinkable substance in the silicone system consists of polydimethylsiloxane having some of its methyl groups replaced with vinyl groups and the crosslinking-forming

substance consists of dimethysiloxane having some of its methyl groups replaced with hydrogen, and a platinum-based catalyst.

8. A preparation as claimed in claim 6 or 7, characterized in that one or more skin-care substance(s) has/have been added to the silicone composition.

9. A method for applying a protective layer to the skin (stratum corneum), characterized in that a preparation comprising a silicone composition, which is highly viscous on application and which, after application, cures, by means of crosslinking, to form a soft and skin-friendly elastomer which adheres to the skin, is applied to the skin, after which the preparation is allowed to cure to form a soft, skin-friendly elastomer which adheres to the skin.

10. The method as claimed in claim 9, characterized in that the preparation is applied at a layer thickness of 0.1-5 mm.

11. The method as claimed in claim 9 or 10, characterized in that an article for medical use, such as a stoma bag, a tube or parts of a wound dressing or a bandage, is applied to the upper side of the preparation, i.e. that side which faces away from the skin, before the preparation has cured, with the article being affixed to the preparation after the latter has cured.

12. The method as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that the preparation is applied to the article for medical use before it is applied to the skin concurrently with the article.

13. The method as claimed in claim 11 or 12,

characterized in that the preparation is designed such that its adherence to the article for medical use is greater than its adherence to the skin after curing.

14. The method as claimed in one of claims 9-13, characterized in that the preparation is applied around a wound, immediately outside the edge of the wound, with a width of 2-100 mm.

15. The method as claimed in claim 14, characterized in that one or more wound dressing(s) is/are applied such that the dressing(s) cover(s) the wound and the area to which the preparation has been applied, with the dressing(s) being applied before the preparation has cured.

16. The method as claimed in claim 15, characterized in that the wound dressing(s) consist(s) of (a) liquid-tight dressing(s).